

--This is a continuation application of US Application No. 08/961,185 filed October 30, 1997 which in turn claims priority from US Provisional patent application no. 60/029,856 filed October 30, 1996, both of which are incorporated herein by reference.--

REMARKS

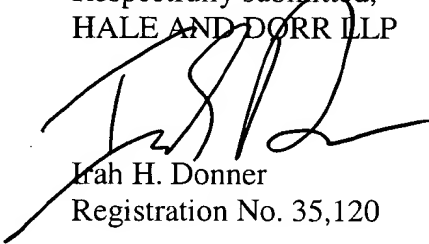
This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the specification and claims as originally filed. The Related Applications Section has been corrected to more appropriately claim priority and continuation status. It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be favorably examined and entered in the above-referenced application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Amendment, or credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 08-0219.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to deposit account no. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,
HALE AND DORR LLP


Ira H. Donner
Registration No. 35,120

1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1008
(202) 942-8400
Date: